

September 2, 2009

OBEY IN HURLEY FOR BRIEFING ON LOCAL BRIDGE AND WATER PROJECTS

HURLEY, WI – Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) was in Hurley today for a briefing on efforts to replace the Montreal River Bridge over the Wisconsin-Michigan state line. Hurley has received almost \$580,000 of federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) which will allow the community to replace the existing bridge over the river with a new single span bridge and the necessary approach road work. The funding was provided through legislation produced by the Appropriations Committee which Obey chairs.

“Communities can’t grow and they can’t provide decent job opportunities without strong community infrastructure such as good roads and bridges,” said Congressman Obey. “The purpose of the Recovery Act funding is to meet community needs, ease the squeeze on local taxpayers and help stabilize the economy by stimulating construction jobs.”

The City of Hurley is also undertaking several water main replacement projects with the help of federal funds. The older cast iron mains are at the end of their useful life. ARRA federal funds of \$419,317 for these water infrastructure improvements will be matched with an equal amount from a subsidized federal loan from the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program (SDWLP) to replace the aging pipes and prevent water loss. The new, larger pipes will also provide greater energy efficiency.

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